

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 831

By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Henry C. Pittman upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Henry C. Pittman, who has given more than fifty years to the education and instruction of young athletes; on March 18, 2006, Mr. Pittman will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee athletics; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man has dedicated more than fifty years of overall service as an official with the TSSAA; and

WHEREAS, joining the TSSAA in 1953, Henry Pittman proved to be an excellent basketball and football referee, and he became well-known for the fairness of his judgment and his knowledge and understanding of the sports he officiated; and

WHEREAS, working in and around the Memphis area, Mr. Pittman officiated TSSAA basketball games from 1953 until 1985 and rendered sterling service as a football official for fifty years, from 1953 through 2002; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Henry Pittman refereed many important games, including many playoff and district and regional tournament games in both football and basketball, the 1994 Class A football championship game, and the 1980 girls state basketball tournament; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pittman joined both the Mid-South Football Officials Association, for which he served terms as Secretary-Treasurer and President, and the Mid-South Basketball Officials Association in 1953 and was a member of the Arkansas Officials Association for twenty-five years. He also served as an football official in the Gulf South Conference when it was first brought into existence; and

WHEREAS, the importance of his role as an official has not gone without notice or recognition; in 1996, Mr. Pittman was inducted into the Memphis Amateur Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of his long and storied career and, in 2002, he was given a Merit Award by the TSSAA for his fifty years of service as a football official; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Mr. Pittman's impact cannot be adequately measured by his number of years as a TSSAA Official; his positive impact on the lives of students, athletes, fellow officials, and administrators will continue to resound in the community for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Henry Pittman has been supported by his loving wife, Marie, and his children, Gary and Diane; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, and because of his impeccable moral standards and impressive work ethic, Mr. Pittman has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Henry Pittman, as a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts to mold the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards, whether in the athletic arena or in the actions of daily life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Mr. Henry C. Pittman in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor and commend Mr. Pittman for his substantial legacy as an official in the sports community of Tennessee, and offer our gratitude for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.